



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE

September 26, 1997

S. 588

A bill to provide for the expansion of the Eagles Nest Wilderness within the Arapaho National Forest and the White River National Forest, Colorado, to include land known as the Slate Creek Addition

As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on September 24, 1997

CBO estimates that enacting this bill would have no significant impact on the federal budget. S. 588 would not affect direct spending or receipts; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply. S. 588 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 and would have no significant impact on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

S. 588 would direct the Secretary of Agriculture to adjust the boundaries of the Eagles Nest Wilderness within the Arapaho and White River National Forests, Colorado, to include about 160 acres of land depicted on a map entitled "Slate Creek Addition-Eagles Nest Wilderness" if the United States acquires that land on or before December 31, 2000. The U.S. Forest Service is currently negotiating to acquire the privately held land, which is adjacent to the Eagles Nest Wilderness. According to the Forest Service, the land has been appraised at a fair market value of approximately \$160,000. However, the owners want assurance that the land would be designated as wilderness, and legislation is required to change the boundaries of a wilderness area. Thus, enacting S. 588 would make it more likely that the Forest Service would purchase the land within the next few years. In any case, outlays for the purchase are subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Victoria V. Heid. This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.